

VINYL



Vinyl flooring, which is often referred (incorrectly) to as linoleum, is available in either 6 foot or 12-foot widths. Today's vinyl flooring is available in a wide variety of colors, patterns and designs. It is easy to care for and is most often used in kitchens and bathrooms. There are two different types of sheet vinyl: inlaid vinyl and printed vinyl with a durable protective coating or wear layer.

Inlaid vinyl's color pattern goes all the way through the sheet vinyl. It is by far the more durable of the two choices.

Printed vinyl is usually less expensive and though offered in many top qualities, will usually fall short of the durability found in an inlaid product.

When deciding on a vinyl floor these are some of the things you should consider before selecting a floor. How much use is this room going to get? Will the color or pattern I am choosing be easy to keep clean? Will the design work with the other fabrics that I have in this room? Do I want to put in an a less expensive floor now and have to replace it in 3-5 years or am I better off investing a little bit more now? Does this particular floor meet my needs for moisture resistance? Stain resistance? Indentation resistance?

Wearability: is an important feature of sheet vinyl and should be seriously thought out before putting vinyl in a busy work area. The wear layer is a guideline as to how many years you can expect a floor to last. Wear layers are broken-down into mil-layers, which are (1/1000") thickness. Wear layer usually range from 8mil-25mil, with 8 mils being an entry-level floor, while 25 mils would be considered a commercial grade. A rule of thumb is the number of mils will give you the maximum years you can expect that floor to still be an acceptable floor covering in your home.

Maintenance: "No wax floors" is a bit of a misnomer. All floors need to be maintained by the consumer to get the maximum life out of your selection. An occasional wax or polish will enhance the look of any no wax floor. This can best be compared to the finish on your car. If you have a dark blue car you are more likely to see surfaces scratches than you would see on a beige colored car. Picking color and pattern for your families' lifestyle should be your first concern. A white floor with little or no pattern may make your room look beautiful right after washing it but if you have 2 dogs and 3 children how practical is this choice?

Pattern matches: increase the ability to alter a room beyond what it might have looked like with solid or non-descript flooring. Always follow the manufacturer's printed pattern matches to avoid seams that do not line up correctly. Remember the bigger the design the larger the pattern match will be on that floor. Some floors have a color match as well as a design match. This can easily be explained to you by one of our flooring specialists at any of our 8 locations.

What's new in vinyl?

Armstrong and Mannington have made great strides in altering the look of a vinyl floor. By adding depth and dimension to their designs they are now able to create a more realistic stone or marble pattern. Mannington has introduced "differential gloss" which allows them to change the gloss level between the tile and the grout lines. This gives you a much sharper look between each tile and stone.

If a more modern look is what you had in mind, ask to see our new "Urban Settings Collection" from Armstrong. Also ask about the new Tough Guard backing available on most Armstrong floors. These floors won't rip, tear or gouge. Wow! "This is not your mother's linoleum!"

Why Vinyl?

Vinyl offers you hundreds of color combinations with varying degrees of texture. Vinyl is generally a more cost effective way of decorating your home than, say, ceramic tile or hardwood. When you look at the color combinations the worlds top decorators have put together it's difficult to pick just one. We have listed 10 points to consider when you are selecting a vinyl floor for your home.

1. **Flooring selection:** Your floor should complement rather than dominate the other elements in your room. If your room is simple, consider a floor with a stronger pattern. If your room has a more distinct style, the floor should pick up on the existing colors and patterns.



CUSTOM CARPET CENTERS
2847 Southwestern Blvd. Orchard Park, NY 14127
716.674.0678 info@customcarpetcenters.com

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2. **Color:** Resilient floors are available in a wide range of the latest colors trends for home design. Choose one of these colors to add interest and design excitement to your room. You might want to select a color family that coordinates with your countertop, wallpaper or the paint in the room.
3. **Traffic Pattern:** All of the Mannington and Armstrong vinyl floors that we carry are made to the highest standards and will last for years. But there are some considerations you should keep in mind. What type of room will the floor go in? Are there doors leading directly to the outside of your home? Do you have kids or pets? Higher traffic areas such as kitchens are best served with each manufacturer's better or best lines.
4. **Light Sources:** The size of your windows, the direction they face, and whether the rooms have incandescent light all contribute to the appearance of your floor.
5. **Creating Drama:** If your goal is to add interest in your room, the visual depth of rustic slate and ancient stones found in Mannington NatureForms collections or Armstrong's Rocky Springs may be just what you are looking for to complete this room.
6. **Design and Style:** Choose your floor to coordinate with the style you like. Whether your home is traditional, country, or contemporary, your floor can make a statement. For traditional or country/ colonial decors a rustic ceramic look would be appropriate. Crisp geometrics are more likely to be used in contemporary setting. Polished marbles and ancient stones with inset designs have a beautiful look for traditional design.
7. **Scale and pattern:** When coordinating a floor or wallpaper, or fabrics used in the room is large scale , select a small-scale design on the floor, and visa versa. Also, if you plan to use several in the room, you'll have the best results if you use one small , one medium and one large pattern. That way the designs are neither too overwhelming nor too busy.
8. **Room size:** If your room is small, select a lighter color to make the room appear larger. Rich darker tones will absorb available light and create a warmer, more intimate environment in a large room. A small pattern will work well in small rooms or rooms where the pattern is visually interrupted by an island or other furniture. However, a larger pattern can actually expand a room visually.
9. **Existing furniture and cabinets:** Be sure to choose a color to either coordinate or contrast with your current furnishings and cabinetry. To coordinate with a resilient floor, make sure your tones work well together. For contrast, white or almond cabinets look great with virtually any floor. Painted cabinets can often pick up an accent color in a floor pattern.
10. Relax in the fact that you are dealing your with WNY #1 Floorcovering Dealer. You can feel secure in the fact that your selection will be an investment in your home as well as a reflection of decorating style. You can count on Custom Carpet Centers to offer the best available styling and the most qualified professional installation.



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